

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

WINDOW TREATMENT HANGING TOOL

The installation of window treatments requires the use of window treatment hanging supports such as curtain and valance rods and brackets, vertical and horizontal Venetian blind supports, and the like. However, positioning such supports for attachment to wall surfaces, such that the window treatments are properly aligned in relation to the window has always been problematic. Anyone who has attempted to hang a curtain rod, so that it is properly aligned in relation to a window, with its ends equidistance from both the left and right sides of the window, knows how difficult this can be. Gauging the distances above, to the side of, and within windows and frames of windows routinely has been subject to inaccurate estimation or cumbersome measurement techniques. While rulers, tape measures and right angle squares are used to determine measurements and distances around a window, these tools also are difficult to use for obtaining accurate measurements and attachment points for window treatment hanging supports, especially when dealing with high windows and those difficult to reach.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is thus the object of the present invention to overcome the disadvantages and limitations of prior devices and systems used to hang window treatments in proper alignment in relation to a window or window frame.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a window treatment hanging tool which can be used to position any window treatment hanging component for hanging window treatments in proper alignment in relation to a window or window frame.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a window treatment hanging tool which can be used to properly aligned window treatments above, to the side of, and within a window or window frame by use of a single tool.

It is still a further object of the present invention to provide a window treatment hanging tool which permits wall surfaces on both sides of a window or window frame to be easily and quickly marked at equal distances from each side of a window or window frame.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a window treatment hanging tool which is adaptable, in a plurality of different configurations, to properly align window treatment hanging supports within and directly on window and window frames.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a window treatment hanging tool which ensures for level and aligned hanging of all window treatments in relation to a window or window frame.

These and other objects are accomplished by the present invention, a window treatment hanging tool made up of two right angled shaped guide components. The first guide component has dual arms positioned perpendicular to each other, each with channeled pathways. The second guide component also has dual arms in perpendicular relation to each other, each arm having an elongated member which is adapted to be slideably and adjustably insertable within the pathways of the first guide component. Each guide component also has measurement markings. Properly positioning the guide components on or within windows or window frames allows proper alignment and lateral equidistance positioning of a window hanging treatment support in relation to the window or window frame.

Novel features which are considered as characteristic of the invention are set forth in particular in the appended claims. The invention, itself, however, both as to its design, construction and use, together with the additional features and advantages thereof, are best understood upon review of the following detailed description with reference to the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 shows top views of the two guide components of the present invention.

FIG. 2 shows an end view of one arm of the first guide component of the present invention.

FIG. 3 shows bottom views of the two guide components of the present invention.

FIG. 4 shows an end view of the second guide component of the present invention.

FIG. 5 shows the slideably adjustable connection between the first and second guide components of the present invention, positioned to mark the wall adjacent to the upper lefthand corner of a window.

FIG. 6 shows the slideably adjustable connection between the first and second guide components of the present invention, positioned to mark the wall adjacent to the upper righthand corner of a window.

FIG. 7 shows the tool of the present invention in use to mark the wall adjacent to the upper lefthand corner of a window.

FIG. 8 shows the tool of the present invention in use to mark the wall adjacent to the upper righthand corner of a window.

FIG. 9 shows the tool of the present invention in use to mark a window frame.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Window treatment hanging tool 1 of the present invention comprises first guide component 2 and second guide component 4. First guide component 2 comprises arms 6 and 8, positioned in perpendicular relation to each other, with channeled pathways 10 and 12 respectively. First guide component 2 has multiple guide holes 14 within arm 6 and 16 within arm 8, and measurement markings 18 on arm 6 and 20 on arm 8. Position markings 22 and 24

on arms **6** and **8** respectively assist in the manner of use of this component of the tool, as will be described hereinafter.

Second component **4** of tool **1** comprises dual arms **26** and **28** positioned in perpendicular relation to each other. Arm **26** comprises measurement markings **30** and arm **28** comprises measurement markings **31**. Position markings **32** on arm **26** and **34** on arm **28** assist in the use of the tool, as described hereinafter. Sight levels **36** and **38** are provided on arms **26** and **28** respectively. As best seen in FIG. 3, arm **26** comprises elongated extension member **40** and arm **28** comprises elongated extension member **42**. Members **40** and **42** are adapted to be slideably and adjustably insertable within pathways **10** and **12** of arm **8** of first guide component **2**. It is contemplated that pathways **10** and **12** could be configured of different widths and that member **40** would be appropriately sized to be slideably and adjustably insertable into pathway **10** and member **42** would be sized to be similarly moveable within pathway **12**. This would facilitate and ensure that the proper member is used in its corresponding pathway.

Tool **1** is used to ensure that window treatment supports, such as curtain and valance rods and brackets, vertical and horizontal Venetian blind supports, and similar supports are properly aligned in relation to windows. By way of example, when attempting to hang a window treatment which employs a curtain rod, tool **1**, as shown in FIG. 7, is first positioned on the upper lefthand corner of window frame **200** of window **100**. The right angle formed between dual arms **6** and **8** of first guide component **2** is aligned with the upper left square of window frame **200**. First guide component **2** is placed such that position marking **24**, labeled as “Down-L”, is positioned as is shown in FIG. 7. Member **40** of arm **26** of second guide component **4** is slideably inserted into pathway **10** of arm **6** of first guide component **2**, as shown in FIG. 5.

Position marking **34**, labeled “Up-L”, designates the proper position of second guide component **4**, when marking the wall adjacent to the upper left corner of window **100**.

Upon placement of tool **1**, as shown in FIG. 7, second guide component **4** can be slideably adjusted within guide component **2** to find the desired location on the wall to attach the curtain rod on the left side of window **100**. Measurement markings **30** on arm **26** and **31** on arm **28** pinpoint the exact vertical and horizontal attachment location. Levels **36** and **38** ensure for proper horizontal and vertical alignment. Once the desired distance over and above window **100** is determined, an appropriate mark **50** can be made on the wall surface, designating the exact location where a screw or similar attachment means will be attached to the wall to suspend the left side of the curtain rod.

Tool **1** is then repositioned over the upper righthand corner of window frame **200** of window **100**, such that the right angle formed between dual arms **6** and **8** of first guide component **2** is aligned with the upper right square of window frame **200**. First guide component **2** is placed such that position marking **22**, labeled as “Down-R”, is positioned as is shown in FIG. 8. Member **42** of arm **28** of second guide component **4** is slideably inserted into pathway **12** of arm **8** of first guide component **2**, as shown in FIG. 6. Position marking **32**, labeled “Up-R”, designates the proper position of second guide component **4**, when marking the wall adjacent to the upper right corner of window **100**.

Upon placement of tool **1**, as shown in FIG. 8, second guide component **4** can be slideably adjusted within guide component **2** to find the desired location on the wall to attach the curtain rod on the right side of the window **100**. Measurement markings **30** on arm **26** and **31** on arm **28** are matched to the measurements previously made to determine the attachment location on the left side of window **100**; thereby pinpointing the exact vertical and horizontal attachment

location on the right side of the window which aligns with the attachment location on the left side of the window. Levels **36** and **38** once again ensure for proper horizontal and vertical alignment. And, as with the left side of window **100**, once the desired distance over and above the window is determined, an appropriate mark **60** can be made on the wall surface, designating the exact location where a screw of similar attachment means will be attached to the wall to suspend the right side of the curtain rod.

It can also readily be seen that, if the attachment location must be measured directly above or to the side of window frame **200**, first guide component **2** can simply be placed such that the right angle formed between dual arms **6** and **8** are aligned with the upper left and then upper right square of window frame **200**. When curtain rods or other window treatment hanging supports are to be positioned immediately above and to the left of window **100**, first guide component **2** is placed on the left corner of window frame **200** and one of the guide holes **14** of arm **6** can be used to make a measured mark on the wall above window frame **200**. First guide component **2** can then be turned 90° and placed on the right corner of window frame **200** and a mark can be made on the wall through the measured guide hole **16** of arm **8** which corresponds to guide hole **14** of arm **6** which was used to mark the left corner of the frame.

Similarly, when a curtain rod or other window hanging treatment support is to be attached to the side of window **100**, first guide component **2** is again placed with its dual arms **6** and **8** aligned with the upper left and right square of window frame **200** and measured marks can be made through guide holes **16** when guide component **2** is positioned on the left corner and corresponding guide holes **14** when guide component **2** is positioned on the right corner, to ensure that the proper distances are maintained on both sides of window **100**, for equidistant alignment to attach the appropriate window treatment support.

FIG. 9 shows first guide component **2** of tool **1** used on the interior of window frame **200** of window **100**. As can be seen in that figure, there are extended side walls **7** and **11** of arms **6** and **8** respectively. First guide component **2** is placed on the inside corner of window frame **200** such that the component is placed in the square of the upper left side corner of the frame. Arm **8** extends vertically along the front of side surface **201** and side wall **11** of arm **8** extends vertically along inner side **203** of the frame. Arm **6** extends horizontally along front top surface **202** and side wall **7** extends horizontally along inner top **204** of window frame **200**. By this configuration, first guide component **2** can be placed within window frame **200** of window **100** and appropriate measured marks can be made on vertical and horizontal front surfaces **201** and **202** of the frame, through guide holes **14** and **16**, for connection of window treatment hanging supports directly on these surfaces; or appropriate measurement marks can be made on vertical and horizontal inner surfaces **203** and **204** of window frame **200** by use of measured markings **9** and **13**, for connection of window treatment hanging supports directly on these inner surfaces.

It can be appreciated that after the appropriate measured markings are made on the left side of window frame **200**, first guide component **2** is repositioned such that the component is placed in the square of the upper right corner of the frame, such that arm **6** and its side wall **7** extends vertically along the side of the right side of the frame and arm **8** and its side wall **11** extends horizontally along the top of the frame. Measured markings consistent with those made on the left side of frame **200** are then made on the right side of the frame to ensure proper alignment of window treatment hanging supports, in relation to window **100**.

Thus, by use of tool **1**, virtually any support for hanging window treatments can be properly aligned above, to the side of, and within a window or window frame. Wall surfaces on both sides of the window can be easily and quickly marked and equally distanced from the sides

of the window, to ensure properly leveled and aligned hanging of any and all window treatments and treatment systems.

Certain novel features and components of this invention are disclosed in detail in order to make the invention clear in at least one form thereof. However, it is to be clearly understood that the invention as disclosed is not necessarily limited to the exact form and details as disclosed, since it is apparent that various modifications and changes may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention.